



**THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
BOROUGH OF THE BRONX  
COMMUNITY BOARD 7**



RUBEN DIAZ, JR., BOROUGH PRESIDENT    EMMANUEL MARTINEZ, CHAIRPERSON    ISCHIA BRAVO, DISTRICT MANAGER

## GENERAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

<b>Chair:</b>	Emmanuel Martinez
<b>Meeting Date:</b>	Tuesday, October 27 <sup>th</sup> , 2020
<b>Meeting Time:</b>	6:30 PM
<b>Meeting Location:</b>	Via Zoom Video/Teleconference
<b>Minutes done by:</b>	Yajaira Arias

**Minutes:**

**I) Welcoming Remarks from District Manager’s Report**

- a) Addressing of rules of order for virtual meeting
- b) Board Operations - minutes to be submitted within 48 hrs.
- c) Importance of informing the public during Covid-19 shutdown
- d) As of November 1, 2020 CB7 Meeting will stream live on social media platforms
- e) Plastic Bag Ban went into effect October 2020
  - 1) CB7 will provide bags if needed
  - 2) If you want to host or partner up with CB7 for a bag giveaway – please contact the CB7 office.

**II) Attendance Taken: Quorum was met**

- a) Motion to approve last month’s minutes.
- b) Lowell Green second the motion. Motion passed with no corrections.

**III) Motion(s)**

**a) Housing, Land Use & Economic Development:**

- 1) Motion to support of the application of Planet Fitness to the Board of Standards and appeals for a special permit to operate a physical culture establishment.
  - Rationale for Recommendation: To continue to operate as a gym (physical culture establishment)
  - Discussion held members and some questions arose such as what is a PCE (Physical Culture Establishment).



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- **Planet Fitness is required to obtain license /permit from standards and appeal.**
- **Motion to vote - second by Chad Royer**
  - **Motion passes with unanimously.**

## IV) Committee Reports

- a) **Environment/Sanitation: No new business to discuss.**
- b) **Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs: Committee had an updated presentation with Mosholu Parklands success/challenges. Mosholu Parklands presentation has been uploaded to their site (for further reference)**
  - 1) **Discussed problems in parks i.e. Rodents, garbage etc.**
  - 2) **Discussed tree lighting ceremony waiting to hear from Parks Commissioner.**
- c) **Housing: Discuss certificate filed for 2500 Jerome Avenue Developers to work with architects to preserve landmark design. We would like for CB7 to have a more input in designs.**
- d) **Education: Committee discussed service updates for library (grab and go service) ebooks and virtual books are available to all residents.**
  - 1) **Discussed drafting a letter to CEC for school safety measures.**
- e) **Traffic & Transportation: No new business to discuss.**
- f) **Veterans Affairs: No new business to discuss.**
- g) **Health: At November's meeting committee will discuss hosting an event for flu/informational clinic in conjunction with Montefiore Medical Center.**
- h) **Other Topics: Betty Arce brought up the long lines, lack of locations and confusion for the early voting sites. This discussion echoed the same sentiment by all in attendance.**



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**We would like for the board of elections to do better.**

- 1) Chad Royer brought up a question with regard to the absentee ballot – can they be dropped off in any polling site? The answer is yes.

**V) Elected officials/City Agencies/Representatives**

**a) 52ND PRECINCT INSPECTOR ALPS**

- 1) Provided update in the community crime stats (for more information please use the link below)
  - <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/nypd/stats/crime-statistics/borough-and-precinct-crime-stats.page>
- 2) Discussed effects of the pandemic and budget cuts.
- 3) Police Officers in our district are performing well overall.
- 4) Response time are being monitored and taken into account
- 5) Shootings are up in our district
- 6) The precinct has been very active in working on getting guns off the streets.
- 7) Board members brought concerns and issues going on at Villa and 205th Street – Stabbing
- 8) 2773 Oliver Place – noise and people congregating without social distancing
- 9) Special and extra patrols for Halloween 10/31/20

**b) Assemblyman Nathalia Fernandez**

- 1) The Councilwoman is working with various organizations and colleagues to continue to provide assistance to those in need.
- 2) Reminder to constituents of poll sites and changes
- 3) Mural @Perry has been cleaned

**c) Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz**

- 1) Early voting issues and the need more poll sites and times.



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- 2) Encourage everyone to get the flu shot.
- d) **Presentation for Early Childhood:**
  - 1) Presentation given by Gilda Morales
  - 2) Virtual childcare services following CDC following all safety measures
  - 3) Sites: 3444 Hull Avenue and St Nicholas of Tolentine Church  
2345 University Ave.
- e) **COUNCILWOMAN VANESSA GIBSON:**
  - 1) Encourage residents to go out and vote
  - 2) Encourage to keep staying safe since the uptick in Covid numbers going up.
  - 3) Covid testing and testing importance
- f) **Bronx Borough Presidents Office – Representative Ish Gonzalez**
  - 1) New board members welcoming
  - 2) New board will have to attend orientation an email will be sent to RSVP.
- g) **Bronx District Attorney’s Office:**
  - 1) Representative Erica Diaz provided information on the success of the gun buyback event held by the DA’s office in conjunction with NYPD and NY Yankees. 136 Guns were taken off our streets.
  - 2) Reminder of anyone dealing with domestic violence – please contact the DA’s office for assistance.
- h) **Mayor’s Office: Representative Miguel Rondon**
  - 1) Administration is focused on Covid and reducing the spread.
  - 2) Poll sites for early voting and for Election Day.
- i) **Councilman Fernando Cabrera:**
  - 1) Office is working to open their doors to residents.



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**2) Providing PPE's, hand sanitizers and reusable bags to residents in need.**

**3) Councilmember Cabrera is working on passing legislation that would give a poll worker a salary of \$250.00 a day – more information to come from the Councilmember on this matter.**

**j) Senator Gustavo Rivera: Representative Rachel Ferrari**

**1) Echoed the need for Covid testing and tracing**

**2) St. James Recreational Center is a testing site**

**3) Free masks and reusable bags will be distributed on 10/31/20 to residents in need.**

**k) Others:**

**1) Joshua Stephenson of Bronx Housing Neighborhood Center**

- Residents in need of housing application and help with landlord issues**
- Can call and set up an appointment – services are free.**

**2) Sirio Guerino - Resident**

- Rat infestation problem at Villa Avenue and Bainbridge**
- Underpass in our district need maintenance and cleaning**
- Lights and paint need to be replaced at Bedford Park**
- Students and schools are not getting enough laptops**

**VI) Discussion on next month's agenda**

**VII) Next month's meeting date: Thursday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**VIII) Adjournment – Motion to close meeting: No Opposition – Meeting ended at 8:13 P.M.**